

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's Action mailed October 4, 2004, with a shortened statutory period of three months set to expire January 4, 2005. Claims 1-20 are currently pending. With this amendment, claims 1, 5, 7-8, 13, 17, and 19-20 have been amended; claims 4, 6, 16, and 18 have been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 8-9, 12-17, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,345,347 issued to *Biran*. The Examiner rejected claims 101-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Biran* in view of a well-known feature.

The Examiner stated that claims 6 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claims 1, 4, and 6. Because claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form as amended claim 1, amended claim 1 is believed to be in an allowable form. Claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claims 13, 16, and 18. Because claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form as amended claim 13, amended claim 13 is believed to be in an allowable form.

Applicants have amended claims 8 and 20 to include features that are similar to those described by original claims 6 and 18. Because these features were found to be allowable, amended claims 8 and 20 are believed to now be in an allowable form.

Remaining claims have been amended to reflect proper antecedent basis.

Applicants believe all pending claims are in an allowable form. The examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: 12.14.04

Respectfully submitted,

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